



GOLF SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA



Members Handbook
2020

Golf Society of Australia Inc.

Reg. No. A0003262H

Registered Office

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Patron

Mrs Anne Court

Office Bearers

President

Mr G. J. (Graeme) Ryan

Treasurer

Mr N. R. (Neil) Walker

Hon. Secretary

Miss K. A. (Kim) Hastie

Committee

Golf Historians

Mr A. C. (Tony) Rule

Collections Committee

Mr N. R. (Neil) Walker

Mr M. C. (Murray) Cropley

Mr G. (Garry) Bos

Mr J. W. (John) Scheffer

Membership Initiatives

Mr A. C. (Tony) Rule

Website

Miss K. A. (Kim) Hastie

Dinners and Interviews

Mrs M. (Morag) North

'The Long Game' Editor

Mr G. (Greg) Bain

Golf Australia Nominee

Mr T. M. (Trevor) Herden

Hickory Co-Ordinator

Mr M. (Max) Findlay

Hon. Auditor

Mr C. R. (Bob) Stannard

Past Presidents

The Society has been fortunate in having had Presidents and other office bearers who are well versed in the history and traditions of golf.

A red jacket decorated with Golf Society of Australia lapels is accorded each President as their badge of office.

Mr D. W. Bachli MBE	1982 - 1986
Miss B. Cheney MBE	1986 - 1988
Dr K. F. Shepherd RFD, VRD & Bar	1988 - 1990
Mr P. A. Rosenhain DFC	1990 - 1992
Mr D. H. Lawrence	1992 - 1994
Mr D. W. J. Cox	1994 - 2000
Mrs A. Court	2000 - 2002
Mr K. H. Wood AM	2002 - 2007
Mr I. Rennick	2007 - 2011
Mr G. A. Vincent AM	2011 - 2016
Mr G. J. Ryan	2016 -

2020 Program of Events

February 18 Tuesday

Dinner

Riversdale Golf Club

March 16 Monday

Historians Forum

Metropolitan Golf Club

May 12 Tuesday

Don Lawrence Trophy

Woodlands Golf Club

June 30 Tuesday

Dinner

Metropolitan Golf Club

July 13 Monday

President's Trophy

Royal Melbourne Golf Club

August (Date to be advised)

Historians Forum

Kyneton Golf Club

August 16 Sunday

Hickory Day

Frank Shepherd Trophy for Men

Burtta Cheney Trophy for Women

Kingston Heath Golf Club

2020 Program of Events continued

September 14 Monday

Dinner

Royal Melbourne Golf Club

October (Date to be advised)

Historians Forum

Commonwealth Golf Club

November 16 Monday

Doug Bachli Trophy, AGM and Cocktail Party

Victoria Golf Club

February to December

Hickory Golf Events

*Monthly Hickory Heroes dates and locations
to be advised by the Hickory Coordinator*

Hickory clubs available for hire from GSA

*Members are advised by mail of the dates, times and
locations of all Golf Society events.*

*Members are also reminded to regularly monitor
the Society's website.*

www.golfsocietyaust.com

Vision Statement

'Preserve, share and celebrate the history of golf in Australia'

Statement of Purposes

1. To collate and record the history of golf in Australia
2. Bring together Society members to enjoy one another's company by arranging golf days, dinners and other events.
3. Arrange Historians Forums with guest speaker's presentations of historical note and interest.
4. Manage, develop and enhance the heritage golf collection and work towards the establishment of a National Golf Museum with Golf Australia.
5. To co-operate with any club, association, society or individual within Australia and overseas whose purposes are similar to those of the Golf Society of Australia.
6. Communicate our aims and activities using appropriate technology to members and the wider golf community.

President's Summary

A strategic plan was prepared in 2017 to identify the main activities of the Society and develop the necessary tactics and actions for the timely achievement of pre-determined objectives over the next three years.

The planning process was initiated by a comprehensive analysis of the Society's current strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) in which all GSA committee members participated.

This structured, detailed analysis revealed several key elements (e.g. membership, finance, website and communications) which were recognised as vital for the enduring success of the Society and its objectives.

The strategic plan was reviewed in late 2019 to determine progress and levels of success. In general, the Society's traditional activities (e.g. Dinners, Historians Forums, 'The Long Game', Website, Golf and Hickory Events) continued with much higher levels of participation due to increased membership and improved means of promotion and communication.

We are building on past successes and adding to the value of membership by the application of our growing levels of experience and skills.

The policy of previous committees to restrict the number of members to around 200 was reassessed in 2017 and an active recruitment program commenced within Victoria and interstate. We are currently increasing membership at a net rate of 10% per year and now have about 270 members.

Importantly, visits and discussions interstate with a view to the creation of state chapters has been ongoing and attracted a number of new members. Alongside this development is a proposal to establish a national body, provisionally titled Golf Heritage Australia, and this is currently being considered by Golf Australia.

In addition, the Society has established reciprocal arrangements with golf heritage societies in the UK and US to form connections, share information and celebrate the history of golf. This has been most successful, and we intend to form similar arrangements with other like-minded organisations overseas.

President's Summary continued

There are plans to form an international golf heritage society and this will make significant progress during 2020. We will play a leading role.

With the design of the Australian Golf Centre at Sandringham well advanced, we are applying considerable effort towards the inclusion of heritage displays and a library. The enormous task of classifying and cataloguing the many thousands of items has proceeded by the application of expertise by the members of our collection sub-committee.

The Golf Society of Australia is enjoying excellent health and vigour. The functions and events are popular and well attended.

Our communications are effective, in particular via our website and 'The Long Game' which both receive many compliments from around Australia and overseas.

We have a strong, active and committed group of people on committee who are taking us to higher levels of success and enjoyment.

History of the Society

The concept of an Australian Golf Society was initiated by Dr Ken Shepherd. Early in 1981 at Royal Melbourne Golf Club, he suggested to Mr John Snell that a society should be formed to research, document and preserve the history of golf in Australia.

They were in agreement and invited Messrs Doug Bachli, Bill Edgar and Peter Rosenhain to assist in the formation of the Golf Society of Australia. Each invited five interested golfers to the inaugural meeting which was held on 24 November 1981. Of the twenty-six invited, eighteen attended and agreed to form a society which became known as the Golf Society of Australia Inc.

After several meetings the following objectives were determined:

- Establish a golf museum
- Create a collection of golf memorabilia
- Arrange regular golf days
- Arrange dinners with guest speakers

A constitution for the 'Golf Society of Australia' was prepared and the first AGM was held on the 26 October 1982. A copy of the current constitution is available for perusal by members from the Honorary Secretary.

The inaugural Office Bearers and Committee were:

President	Mr D. W. Bachli MBE
Vice President	Mr P. A. Rosenhain DFC
Treasurer	Dr K. F. Shepherd RFD, VRD & Bar
Secretary	Miss B. Burgess
Committee	Miss B. Cheney MBE Mr W. A. Edgar MBE Mr B. Green Mr J. A. Snell Mr F. A. Lester
Auditors	Mr J. M. Hilliard and Mr K. A. Christian
Publicity Officer	Mr D. H. Lawrence

History of the Society continued

The first committee meeting was held on 29 November 1982 at the offices of the Victorian Ladies Golf Union (VLGU) at 589 Malvern Road, Toorak.

The Society's activities were launched at Royal Melbourne Golf Club on Sunday 27 February 1983 in the form of a 'Hickory Day' with members playing a 9 hole competition on the West Course using hickory shafted clubs.

In 1985, when the Australian Golf Union (AGU) moved to its building in Cecil Street, South Melbourne, space was provided for a museum in which an excellent collection of golfing memorabilia was displayed.

When the newly formed Golf Australia moved to smaller premises in Coventry Street, South Melbourne in 2006, a large proportion of the collection was moved into storage.

At this time, golf became one of the sports to be included in the National Sports Museum (NSM) at the Melbourne Cricket Ground. Items were displayed from 2006 to 2019 and due to redevelopment of NSM items on display were returned to storage in December 2019.

The display of a selection of items and photographs continues at Moonah Links Golf Club, at Fingal on the Mornington Peninsula.

Society Golf Events

The 'Hickory Day' was the first golfing event held. Men compete for the Frank Shepherd Trophy, whilst the women play for the Burtta Cheney Trophy which is in the form of a mounted club bearing the name of the great Joyce Wethered.

The Doug Bachli Trophy is reserved for the day of the Society's Annual General Meeting. It is competed for by both men and women members.

In 1995, the Don Lawrence Trophy was introduced to commemorate this extremely gifted golf writer who was a President of the Society.

Completing the golfing program is the President's Trophy for which a morning qualifying round is held to determine the leading four players who then play match play to determine the winner. This competition is played under the 1950 rules of golf, which include stymies.

Dinners

Whilst the golfing events attract a strong representation of Society members, dinners have attracted the greatest numbers of members and guests. The quality of the guest speakers is a significant influence.

There are usually three dinners each year, yet additional dinners have been held when special persons have been available.

The Long Game

In 1996 the first edition of the Society's, now regular publication, 'The Long Game' was produced. Since then it has kept its members up to date with Society activities. It features a variety of items about early Australian golf as well as items of interest from like organisations throughout the world. The newsletter is produced in print and digital form.

Historians Forums

Another successful initiative by the Society has been the golf club Historians Forums which commenced in 2004 and have become regular fixtures on the Society's calendar. At these meetings, the Society invites representatives of golf clubs to midweek daytime meetings at selected city or country golf clubs.

Guest speakers talk on some aspect of golf from a historical perspective or matters relating to the preservation of golfing memorabilia.

There are also regular presentations on a variety of matters relating to the collection and preservation of records, cataloguing of museum items, writing club histories and the like.

The Forums also provide the opportunity for attendees to learn more about the history of clubs and golfing in Victoria, and to share information on the location of significant golfing memorabilia and artefacts.

Golf Australia Museum Committee

Golf Australia is the governing body of golf in Australia. Under a Golf Australia by-law, the Golf Society of Australia acts as the Museum Committee and is responsible for Golf Australia's museum, library and archive activities. A Collections Committee comprising members of the Golf Society is active and meets on a regular basis (see Committee section). The committee members work on an honorary basis on the administration of the collection.

Currently, the main activity is cataloguing and recording the collection. Collections Mosaic software, along with Excel sheets, are being used for this purpose. We welcome donations of books and magazines and memorabilia, subject to review by the Committee, using our collection criteria. Our emphasis is Australian golf and its many facets. In the year ahead, we are working to improve the accessibility and visibility of the collection with the use of improved technology. If any members would like to assist, please contact Committee members for further details

Museum Locations and Redevelopments Underway

2020 will see the commencement of construction of a permanent display area at Sandringham golf complex. The new facility is anticipated to open in 2021 with various items on display from the collection.

A selection of items from the collection are on loan and displayed at

Moonah Link Golf Course

Mornington Peninsula

Peter Thomson Drive
off Truemans Road, Fingal, Victoria 3939

Ph: 03 5988 2000
www.moonahlinks.com.au

Open: Clubhouse hours

Museum Collection List

The collection of anything pertaining to Australian golf heritage or the history of golf in Australia.

Clubs, balls, tees and bags - range of styles and types over time, including those noteworthy for their style, maker or use, unique and unusual designs.

Trophies and medals - relating to significant events and winners.

Photographs - golfers, winners of significant events.

Apparel and golf fashions - range of styles or used by significant golfers in major events.

Score cards - course records and other significant scores, changes to courses.

Rules - records of rules, changes and decisions.

Golf tuition - any related items, including books, films and training aids.

Courses and green-keeping - material relating to design, construction and management.

Books - printed materials relating to all aspects of golf including tuition, courses and course design, biographies and autobiographies, club histories, handbooks and Australian golf magazines.

Historical accounts - written by notable people, or about events and places.

Club records - historical records of golf clubs and courses.

Australian club histories - are especially welcome for inclusion in the Library and for listing on the database of Australian golf club histories.

Golf course locations - details of changes to golf course locations are being compiled in three sections: metropolitan, country, and those no longer in existence.

Museum - Some Significant Contents

The museum contains many items of golfing historical interest. In the order of 1500 different objects and several thousand books and magazines comprise the collection as at the start of 2020. The Golf Society in recent times has received some notable additions to the collection. Some of these additions have been books, magazines, Peter Toogood awards, trophies and memorabilia along with a Hickory Driver used by Alf Toogood in the 1906 British Open. Items relating to Jarrod Lyle's golfing career have been placed in the collection.

Some other interesting items are the clubs used by Louis Whyte in 1894 to win the first Australian Amateur Championship; clubs used by Warren Bennett who won the 1994 Centenary Australian Amateur 100 years later; clubs used by Doug Bachli, until recently the only Australian to win the British Amateur Championship and a putter used by Peter Thomson when he won one of his five British Open Championships. The driver which David Graham used to win his US Open Championship is also in the collection. There are many other items in the collection ranging through clubs, balls, tees, trophies, score cards, regalia, photographs, books and other golfing paraphernalia.

Golf Clubs and Equipment

Clubs used by Louis A. Whyte, first Australian Amateur Champion, 1894.

Club used by P. C. Anderson, winner British Amateur Championship, 1893.

Clubs used by greats of Australian golf including Doug Bachli, Peter Thomson, Greg Norman, Lindy Goggin, David Graham, Ossie Pickworth and Betty Kernot.

Golf balls of various sizes and makes, tees, etc.

Golf club making tools and equipment.

The Toogood Collection

Jarrod Lyle Items

Museum - Some Significant Contents continued

Trophies

Golf Australia trophies and 'presentation' items.

Trophies won by Harry Williams, W. A. Higgins, Alf Toogood, Peter Toogood, Mona Macleod, Judith Percy et al.

Photographs

Individual photographs of players, teams and events.

Set of photographs of each Australian amateur and open champion, men and women.

Clothing

Royal & Ancient Golf Club Captain's jacket and medal.

Australian team uniforms.

Collection of signed golf gloves.

Library Collection

Books on all aspects of golf, including tuition, courses and course design, biographies and autobiographies, club histories, handbooks and Australian golf magazines. There are in excess of 1,200 books and 4,000 magazines on file

Ephemera

Scrapbooks, programs, scorecards and tickets. The Golf Australia collection includes programs from all national events.

Resources collected by golf journalist Don Lawrence.

Membership Guidelines

To maintain membership levels and the ongoing future of the Society, members are encouraged to invite friends and colleagues who meet the membership guidelines to consider nomination for membership.

Nominees to be considered for membership should be formally put before the Committee with the names of the proposer and seconder, for ratification prior to the issue of nomination papers. All proposers and seconds should take into account the following guidelines.

The primary aim of the Golf Society of Australia is to preserve the history of golf in Australia and members should have a true love of and interest in the traditions of the game. Prospective members should be able to demonstrate this in one or more of the following ways.

1. Achieved life membership of their club.
2. A club member of good reputation who is a proven and substantial collector of golf memorabilia and/or who is recognised as being well versed in the traditions of the game.
3. Served as an office bearer or other voluntary capacity at their golf club for a number of years.
4. Achieved major golfing successes at club, state or national level.
5. Represented their club at Pennant for a number of years.
6. Worked in a voluntary capacity at state or national administrative level for some years.
7. In the opinion of the committee, a person of integrity and significant contributor to the game, who has made a positive impact and expected to be a valued member.

Membership Categories

1. Ordinary Members - Voting and Full playing rights.
2. International Members may be accepted if they reside permanently in an overseas country.
3. Young Members are persons of 30 years of age or younger. Upon reaching 30 years they are eligible, subject to Committee approval for Ordinary Membership and full yearly fees will be applicable with no joining fee.

Fees for categories 2 & 3 shall be:

- a) Decided by the committee for International members initially set a sixty percent but may be altered by the committee as required.
- b) Young Members shall pay no fees.

These categories will not have voting rights. Both categories would be able to fully participate in society events.

Life Members

Mr D. W. (Doug) BACHLI* MBE

Miss B. (Burtta) CHENEY* MBE

Mr D. W. J. (Daryl) COX*

Mr W. A. (Bill) EDGAR* MBE

Mr D. H. (Don) LAWRENCE*

Mr P. A. (Peter) ROSENHAIN* DFC

Dr K. F. (Ken) SHEPHERD* RFD, VRD & Bar

Mr J. A. (John) SNELL

Mrs R. E. (Rosemary) WAKEHAM*

Mrs J. (Anne) COURT

Mr J. (John) LINDSAY*

Mr K. H. (Keith) WOOD* AM

Mr I. (Ian) RENNICK

Mr G. A. (Geoff) VINCENT AM

Mr R. (Dick) Kirby

**Deceased*



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